

# *Marsh Water Quality Sampling Update*

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Environmental Resource Assessment

February 21, 2006

## *Objectives*

- Discuss sampling procedures and find ways to help improve collection of marsh water quality samples
- Provide training to sampling personnel

August 10, 2005

- Initial Discussions

Participants:

Technical personnel from SFWMD,  
USFWS, ENP, FDEP, COE, and  
Miccosukee Tribe

September 26, 2005

- On-site Hands-on Training on Marsh Water Sample Collection
- Discussion on current procedure and potential improvements

Participants:

Technical personnel from ENP, FDEP,  
SFWMD, USFWS

February 9, 2006

- Sample Processing Hands-on Demonstration and Training
- Continued discussion on procedure and improvement areas

Participants:

Technical Personnel from BCNP, ENP, FDEP, SFWMD, USFWS

## *Recently Implemented Marsh Sampling Enhancements*

- Changed to using smaller sampling bottles
- Discontinued submersing capped bottles
- Changed into a more consistent method of DCS measurements
- Changed on-site sample bottle rinsing protocol

## *Recently Implemented Marsh Sampling Enhancements (con't)*

- Required both samplers to be present at sample location
- Enhanced field documentation
- Required collection of quarterly replicates from marsh sites
- Allowed sampling outside marked perimeter

## *Additional Enhancements*

- Establish a uniform criteria to evaluate demonstration of capability of sampling personnel
- Establish consistency in documentation

## *Summary and Future Plans*

- Constructive discussions on procedure and techniques were held.
- Monitoring plan will be revised to reflect changes.
- Trainings to technical staff were provided.
- Additional guidance documents and checklists are being prepared.
- Other improvement ideas and research studies maybe pursued depending on need and resource availability.
- Future trainings will be enhanced with visual aids and situational guides, and a more detailed demonstration of capability criteria.